

CLAIMS

1. A method of exchanging signalling information for optimising a rate control scheme in a mobile network, wherein data packets are transmitted over the network from a sender to a receiver employing the rate control scheme with a sending rate which can be adapted using feedback information from the receiver, comprising the steps of :

exchanging PDP context information between the receiver and the network,

signalling PDP context information to the sender; and

adapting the sending rate using the signalled PDP context information.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the PDP context information comprises a variable service parameter, which is negotiable between the network and the receiver.
3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the negotiable parameter is the maximum or guaranteed bit rate for downlink.
4. The method according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the rate control scheme is TFRC.
5. A communication system for exchanging signalling information for optimising a rate control scheme in a mobile network, comprising:

a sender for transmitting data packets over the network employing the rate control scheme with a sending rate which can be adapted using feedback information from the receiver;

a receiver for exchanging the content of PDP context information from the network with a rate control scheme and signalling the PDP context information to the sender; and

wherein the sender is adapted to adjust the sending rate using the signalled PDP context information.

6. The communication system according to claim 5, wherein the network comprises a core network element of a UMTS network.
7. The communication system according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the core network element is a gateway GPRS support node between the core network and an external packet data network.
8. A sender for use in a communication system according to one of claims 5 to 7 adapted to carry out the method according to one of claims 1 to 4.
9. A receiver for use in a communication system according to one of claims 5 to 7 adapted to carry out the method according to one of claims 1 to 4.
10. The receiver according to claim 9, wherein the receiver is a streaming application receiver located in a mobile terminal of a UMTS network.
11. The receiver according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the PDP context information is transmitted from a control plane to a user plane of the TFRC client.